CLAIMS:

1. A method for transacting exchanges of commodities, the method comprising:

setting a first price for a first quantity of a first commodity based on an average price observed during a period of time and a premium above the average price;

setting a second price for a second quantity of a second commodity based on a price determined at a future date, wherein the second price is capped so as to not exceed a maximum price;

delivering both the first quantity and the second quantity from a seller to a buyer; and

paying the seller a sum based on the first price, the premium, and the second price.

2. The method of claim 1, wherein the first price is a per unit price X1, the premium is a per unit price Y1, the second price is a per unit price X2, the first quantity is Q1 units, the second quantity is Q2 units, and the sum paid to the seller is based on (X1 + Y1) * Q1 + X2 * Q2.

3. The method of claim 1, wherein the seller is a producer of commodities.

4. The method of claim 1, wherein the buyer is a reseller of commodities.

5. The method of claim 1, wherein the commodities include at least one of crude oil, heating oil, unleaded gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, propane, water, communication or computing bandwidth, semiconductor chips, pollution/emission rights, gold, silver, palladium, aluminum, copper, steel, and lead.

6. The method of claim 1, wherein the first commodity is the same as the second commodity.

7. A method for transacting exchanges of commodities, the method comprising:

setting a first price for a first quantity of a first commodity based on an average price observed during a period of time and a discount to the average price;

setting a second price for a second quantity of a second commodity based on a price determined at a future date, wherein the second price is floored so as not to drop below a minimum price;

delivering both the first quantity and the second quantity from a seller to a buyer; and

paying the seller a sum based on the first price, the discount, and the second price.

8. The method of claim 7, wherein the first price is a per unit price X1, the discount is a per unit price Y1, the second price is a per unit price X2, the first quantity is Q1 units, the second quantity is Q2 units, and the sum paid to the seller is based on (X1 - Y1) * Q1 + X2 * Q2.

9. The method of claim 7, wherein the seller is an reseller of commodities.

10. The method of claim 7, wherein the buyer is a reseller of commodities.

11. The method of claim 7, wherein the commodities include at least one of of crude oil, heating oil, unleaded gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, propane, water, communication or computing bandwidth, semiconductor chips, pollution/emission rights, gold, silver, palladium, aluminum, copper, steel, and lead.

12. The method of claim 7, wherein the first commodity is the same as the second commodity.

13. A method for transacting exchanges of commodities, the method comprising:

setting a first price for a first quantity of a first commodity based on an average price observed during a period of time and a premium above the average price;

setting a second price for a second quantity of a second commodity based on a price determined at a future date, wherein the second price is capped so as not to exceed a maximum price;

delivering at least the first quantity from a seller to a buyer; and

paying the seller a sum based at least in part on the first price and the premium.

14. The method of claim 13, further comprising delivering both the first quantity and the second quantity from the seller to the buyer, and paying the seller a sum based on the first quantity, the first price, the second quantity, the second price, and the premium.

15. The method of claim 13, wherein the seller is a producer of commodities.

16. The method of claim 13, wherein the buyer is a reseller of commodities.

17. The method of claim 13, wherein the commodities include at least one of crude oil, heating oil, unleaded gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, propane, water, communication or computing bandwidth, semiconductor chips, pollution/emission rights, gold, silver, palladium, aluminum, copper, steel, and lead.

18. The method of claim 13, wherein the first commodity is the same as the second commodity.

19. A method for transacting exchanges of commodities, the method comprising:

setting a first price for a first quantity of a first commodity based on an average price observed during a period of time and a discount above the average price;

setting a second price for a second quantity of a second commodity based on a price determined at a future date, wherein the second price is floored so as not to drop below a minimum price;

delivering at least the first quantity from a seller to a buyer; and

paying the seller a sum based at least in part on the first price and the discount.

20. The method of claim 19, further comprising delivering both the first quantity and the second quantity from the seller to the buyer, and paying the seller a sum based on the first quantity, the first price, the second quantity, the second price, and the discount.

21. The method of claim 19, wherein the seller is a producer of commodities.

22. The method of claim 19, wherein the buyer is a reseller of commodities.

23. The method of claim 19, wherein the commodities include at least one of crude oil, heating oil, unleaded gasoline, jet fuel, kerosene, propane, water, communication or computing bandwidth, semiconductor chips, pollution/emission rights, gold, silver, palladium, aluminum, copper, steel, and lead.

24. The method of claim 19, wherein the first commodity is the same as the second commodity.